(e) The MDA will be available on a regular basis, only if the Societies have elected representatives

Cotton Scam

333. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:
SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article appearing in the Sunday Magazine dated 5—11 February, 1995 under the caption 'Cotton Scam'; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had laid down stock limits for holding of cotton by various users. The stock limit notification does not cover cotton growers. This is reviewed from time to time. The Textile Commissioner has carried out extensive checking throughout the country during this season

Representations for suspension of yarn exports

334. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives have been received by Government, urging suspension of yarn exports to bring down the prices of yarn to help handloom weavers; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the demand of the handloom weavers to restrict exports of cotton yarn from India, the Govt. has taken a decision to reduce the ceiling for cotton yarn exports for the year 1995. Against a final ceiling of 130 million Kgs., for all counts, released during 1994, the ceiling for 1995 has been reduced to 75 million kgs. The reduced ceiling of 75 million kgs. would, however, be applicable only for exports of cotton yarn in count group 1—40s. It has further been decided that out of the ceiling of 75 million kgs., a quantity of 23 million kgs. shall be set apart for exports to quota countries and the balance ceiling of 52 million kgs shall be distributed bi-annually in two instalments of 26 million kgs each. The above measures have been taken to improve availability of cotton yarn, particularly in the coarse counts which are largely used by the handloom sector

Powerloom Service Centres in Madhya Pradesh

335. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Madhya Pradesh particularly in the tribal areas where Powerloom Service Centres have been set-up during the last three years.

(b) the places where these centres are proposed to be set up during 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(c) the financial assistance likely to be provided by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No Powerloom Service Centres has been set up in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years

(b) and (c) The locations of Powerloom Service Centres are decided on receipt of suggestions from State Govts., and on the basis of areas of powerloom concentration. For opening a new Powerloom Service Centre, a one-time capital grant of Rs 3 lakhs and a recurring grant of Rs. 4.50 lakhs are given by the Central Government.